

# CLASSES & EVENTS--2021

Normally, we offer several in-person ADULT LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES, unlimited in size.

Due to COVID-19 protocol, we are scheduling ZOOM CLASSES, RESERVATION ONLY.

All class/lecture fees are: FREE with membership; \$5 others.

Make reservations, and get ZOOM ACCESS, at 361-852-2100.

## WINTER LECTURE SERIES, 10-11am, Wednesdays.

Residents and winter guests love this Wednesday morning series, where you enjoy a cup of coffee, new acquaintances, and new knowledge about Texas Coastal Bend horticulture, environmental education, other interesting topics, from different guest speakers each week.

Jan 20	Edible Gardens	Deb Holliday, Master Gardener
Jan 27	Trees for South Texas	Michael Womack, Exec. Director
Feb 3	Face Lift for Landscapes	Whitney Lance/Color by the Door
Feb 10	Growing Orchids on a Stick	Jorge Garcia, Orchid Curator
Feb 17	Monarch Waystations	Rosemary Plank, Master Naturalist
Feb 24	Plumeria Winter Wakeup	Melissa Garcia, Plumeria Society

## ABCs OF SPRING VEGETABLE GARDENING

Saturday, February 6, 9:15 am –10:15 am.

Carol Krank, STBGNC Horticulturist, along with Nueces County Master Gardeners Deb Houlihan and Frank Eicholz, share secrets and life-times of gardening experiences on the best vegetable varieties, planting techniques, and how to head off potential problems in spring vegetable gardens, maximizing harvest.

## GARDENING IN SAND

Saturday, February 20, 9:15 am –10:15 am.

Shelby Guererro of Bloomers Nursery in Rockport provides insights for gardening in sandy soils including plant selections, soil preparation, and other techniques to master this challenging growing environment.

## NEW VARIETIES AND OLD FAVORITES FOR LANDSCAPES

Saturday, March 6, 9:15 am –10:15 am. (ZOOM only)

Kathy Hubner, Landscape Designer at Gill Landscape Nursery, shares examples of new plant varieties for local landscapes, providing information on some of her favorite plant picks that perform consistently through the years to give you more choices on sprucing up your landscape in spring. Get ideas from her years of experience on how to jazz up those old landscapes to create a vibrant new look with lots of curb appeal!

## {SPECIAL EVENT}: SPRING BREAK

Daily Activities, March 6-21!

Students off during spring break weeks can fill a day at the Botanical Gardens, touring and joining special activities:

REPT-TALES, daily 10:30-11:00 am.

PARROT TALK, daily 1:30-2:00 pm.

ON YOUR OWN, explore nature trails, wetland boardwalk, wildlife blinds, floral conservatories, gardens, "Resident Reptiles," Butterfly House, Monkey Mansion Tree House, more. General Admission covers all.



## NEST CHECKS: MARVELS OF PURPLE MARTINS

Saturday, May 22, 9:15-10:15

Louise Chambers, retired biologist with Purple Martin Conservation Assoc will give guests an chance to peak at tiny purple martins recently hatched in the STBGNC colony!

## SUPER SUCCULENTS FOR PATIOS & LANDSCAPE

Saturday, May 29: 9:15-10:15

Nueces Master Gardener Kathie Fernandez will share her joys of growing unusual succulents and how she creatively displays them to provide a wow factor for guests to enjoy.



## Kids summer nature camps. 2021

Our camps are designed to feature exciting animal interactions & nature activities in a safe, but stimulating environment. Specialized Education & Animal Care staff & volunteers lead our camps. Each session splits into "pods" of 6-8 students with adult leaders, which learn together the entire week. Wearing masks indoors, practicing social distancing, hand-washing, campers rotate through indoor science experiments, trail checklists, outdoor parrots, Reptile Room, Sensory Garden, Butterfly House, more. Camp Shirt, take-homes, daily snacks, drinks provided.

**BRING:** Water bottle, sunscreen, cap, extra snack.

**WEAR:** Comfortable, cool clothing, close-toed shoes.

**PARENT/GUARDIAN:** Will sign campers in/out daily.

**CAMP DETAILS:** [brendae@stxbot.org](mailto:brendae@stxbot.org)

**REGISTER, PRE-PAY:** [kathie@stxbot.org](mailto:kathie@stxbot.org)

**ALL CAMPS: \$125 MEMBERS, \$150 OTHERS**

## Feathers & Scales

Jun 14-18

9-Noon

Campers ages 6-8 will love this look into the world of tropical parrots & reptiles! They interact with different animals, participate in fun labs, create nature crafts, & keep camp journal.

## Bird Brainiacs

Jun 21-25

9-Noon

Kids ages 9-12 investigate the world of tropical & native birds, explore bird characteristics & behavior, including labs about flight, nests, eggs, more.

## Snakes & Friends

Jun 21-25

12:30-3:30

Campers ages 9-12 interact with snakes, lizards & turtles supervised by trained Animal Care staff, studying animal differences, habitats, diets, more.

**{SPECIAL EVENT}: MEMBERS' Mini-BLOOM**  
"Trimmed Back" to Members only, APRIL 2 & 3!

(Join or Renew by MARCH 13, to participate.)  
SELECT YOUR PLANTS from list by MARCH 14.  
We'll CALL, CONFIRM, GET YOUR PAYMENT, PICK-UP TIME.

Also Remaining ORCHID SALE, FACEBOOK LIVE, April 3.  
PUBLIC Remaining Plants, FACEBOOK LIVE, April 9.

Call or email [Kathie@stxbot.org](mailto:Kathie@stxbot.org), 361-852-2100, and she will email you instructions, plant lists.

*Another MEMBER BENEFIT from the Botanical Gardens!*

**{SPECIAL EVENT}: BIRDIEST FESTIVAL IN AMERICA**

Wednesday-Sunday, April 21-25

Spotlighting South Texas peak spring migration in one of country's busiest flyways, festival features optional guided birding field trips to regional hot spots, shorebird/wading bird sites, and private ranches. "The Raptor Project" presentations, vendor tradeshow; NEW THIS YEAR: KEYNOTE SPEAKER, Noted Birder, Author, and Illustrator DAVID SIBLEY will share insights on migration on Friday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>. Registration open Dec. 15. Details, [www.birdiestfestival.org](http://www.birdiestfestival.org).



**POLLINATOR GARDENS**

Saturday, May 1, 9:15-10:15

Nueces Master Gardener Deb Houlihan provides insights on planting a garden that attracts a variety of visiting pollinators to your landscape. Learn plant varieties which attract butterflies, hummingbirds, and bees to your garden.

**{SPECIAL EVENT}: MOTHERS DAY FREE WEEKEND**

**MOMS GET IN FREE!** Saturday, Sunday, May 8-9

Celebrate Mothers' Day Weekend with us! At Visitors Center Check-in, all a mother needs to say is "Moms Love Flowers!", and she gets in free. Sorry, the rest of the family pays general admission. (Of course, members always get in free.)  
SPECIAL MOMS DAY DEAL:  
Buy Mom a membership this weekend, at 20% off for a year's worth of free admission Nature's Boutique, nursery, BIG BLOOM and other discounts, national magazine subscription, plus 330 Reciprocal Gardens around the Country ([www.ahsgardening.org/rap](http://www.ahsgardening.org/rap)).



**TROPICALS IN LANDSCAPE** Saturday, May 15, 9:15-10:15

Nueces County Extension Horticulture Agent Kevin Gibbs explores options on transforming your backyard into a jungle paradise with tropical plants to transport you to the islands after a long day at work.

**Tiny Critters**

Jul 5-9

9-Noon

Youngsters ages 6-8 explore digging, crawling & flying insects, other tiny creatures, using observation skills, science lab tools, making a creature habitat to take home.

**Nature Shutterbugs**

Jul 12-16

9-Noon

Youth ages 9-14 use cameras & various artistic techniques to express nature, combining & integrating photographs using paints, clay, wood, more. Cameras available, or bring yours.

**Nature Buddies**

July 19-23

9-Noon

Campers ages 6-8 explore multiple habitats to learn about birds, reptiles, and plants. Nature investigations include using microscopes and cameras, and making models and nature crafts.

**"NATURE ADVENTURE"**

**for Families, Scouts, Home School groups...**

Choose your Garden & Trail areas, Animal Interactions, Science Investigations, Nature Crafts, private time in Play Area—for your small group—a 1.5 -2.0 hr adventure, any day of the week, 9am-6 pm, **year-round**. Groups divided into pods of max 8, including adults, with all health protocols, masks indoors.

**Brenda, 361-852-2100; [brendae@stxbot.org](mailto:brendae@stxbot.org)**

**{SPECIAL EVENT}: FATHER'S DAY FREE WEEKEND**

Saturday, Sunday, June 19, 20, 9-6

Just say, "It's Fathers' Day," and the man gets in free Fathers' Day weekend! Be "buds" with Dad, enjoy the new Reptile Room, gardens, Gator Lake, trails, other guy stuff! Sorry only dads are free—all other non-members pay general admission!

**PLUMERIA PASSIONS**

Saturday, July 10, 9:15-10:15

Plumeria Society of South Texas Exhibit Co-Curator Renee Brown discusses tips on acquiring, raising and wintering these exotic, tropical beauties, and leads a tour of the Gardens & Nature Center's impressive Plumeria Garden and Willoughby viewing platform. This amazing group maintains our Plumeria Collection year-round, always welcoming new members. Annual PLUMERIA SALE DATE "tba."



**{SPECIAL EVENT}: FOURTH- OFF FOR 4TH!**

Sunday, July 4, 9-6.

Celebrate AMERICA'S NATURAL BEAUTY at the Botanical Gardens with half-price admission on Independence Day, a "big bang" for your bucks! Just \$6.75 ages 13-59; \$5.25 Sr / Active Military / College; \$3.75 ages 3-12. Under 3 & Members free! Bring a picnic; but NO FIREWORKS allowed.